

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 020912
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DRAFTED BY NEA/AEGRIFIN:SEB

APPROVED BY NEA:AEGRIFFIN

S/S-O:AWOTTO

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 020912

NODIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT CAIRO 1659 ACTION SECSTATE 28 JAN 77

QUOTE

S E C R E T CAIRO 1659

NODIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652:U GDS

TAGS: ENRG, EG, US

SUBJ: AMOCO DRILLING IN GULF OF SUEZ

REF: (A) CAIRO 42, (B) 76 STATE 261861

1. WHEN MEETING WITH FAHMY YESTERDAY I HAD OPPORTUNITY
TO GIVE HIM A COPY OF OUR MEMORANDUM OF LAW SETTING
FORTH USG VIEWS ON ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO DEVELOP OIL FIELDS

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IN THE SINAI AND THE GULF OF SUEZ. I EXPLAINED COPY
HAD RECENTLY ALSO BEEN GIVEN TO ISRAELIS SO THAT THEY
ARE IN NO DOUBT ABOUT USG LEGAL POSITION ON THE MATTER.

2. FAHMY EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST AND APPRECIATION
AND ASKED IF I HAD ANYTHING FURTHER ON AMOCO MATTER.
I TOLD HIM SUBJECT HAD BEEN DISCUSSED DURING MY LAST TRIP

TO WASHINGTON. WHILE DEPT SHARED MY VIEW THAT HIS
SIMPLIFIED FORMULA IS NOT ACCEPTABLE TO THE ISRAELIS,
WE HAVE TRIED TO MEET SOME OF HIS CONCERNS BY ALTERING
POINT TWO OF THE FOUR POINTS (REF B) TO READ: "IN
ORDER TO SEEK PRACTICAL WAYS AND MEANS TO INSURE ORDERLY
OPERATIONS FOR THE FUTURE, FURTHER DRILLING ON SIMILAR
LOCATIONS WILL BE SUBJECT TO DISCUSSIONS INVOLVING U.S.
GOOD OFFICES." THIS REFORMULATION HAS NOT YET BEEN
TRIED ON ISRAELIS, BUT WE WOULD BE WILLING TO DO SO IF
GOE FINDS IT ACCEPTABLE.

3. AFTER LISTENING CAREFULLY AND ASKING ME TO REPEAT
THE REFORMULATION, HE ASKED HOW EGYPTIAN CONCERN RE
SOVEREIGNTY IN GULF OF SUEZ WOULD BE MET IN OUR REVISED
FOUR POINTS. I REMINDED HIM THAT POINT FOUR OF OUR
ORIGINAL POINTS, WHICH STILL STANDS, STATES THAT ANY
OF THE OPERATING ARRANGEMENTS ARE WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO
THE LEGAL POSITION OF ANY OF THE PARTIES REGARDING THE
MEDIAN LINE. ALTHOUGH HE MADE NO SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT,
FAHMY ASKED THAT I GIVE HIM A PAPER SETTING FORTH THE
FOUR POINTS, INCLUDING THEREVISED POINT TWO. I WILL DO
SO TOMORROW. HE WANTS TO THINK SOME MORE ABOUT THE
MATTER AND PERHAPS DISCUSS IT AGAIN WITH THE PRESIDENT.
THEREAFTER HE WILL LET ME KNOW HIS REACTION.

4. NOTE: YOU WILL RECALL ALL PREVIOUS MESSAGES ON THIS
SUBJECT WERE ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY AND SLUGGED
NODIS. I DO NOT KNOW THE EXTENT TO WHICH SECRETARY VANCE
HAS YET GOTTEN INTO THE MATTER OR WISHES TO DO SO, BUT
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WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR GUIDANCE ON HOW FUTURE PERTINENT
MESSAGES SHOULD BE SUBMITTED.
EILTS
UNQUOTE VANCE.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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TAGS: ENRG, EG, US, AMOCO, (FAHMY, ISMAIL)
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